

March is Women's  
History Month  
page 2

ADM Leighton Smith  
knighted  
page 2

NSF Antarctica  
returns permanently  
page 4

Keep beneficiary info  
current  
page 5

# NAVY NEWS

Vol. 010/97

<http://chinfo.navy.mil>

March 7, 1997



Bridge watch on board the 3rd Fleet command ship USS Coronado (AGF 11). Sailors and Marines are testing new technology, operational concepts off Camp Pendleton during Fleet Battle Experiment Alfa.

## 3rd Fleet conducts fleet battle experiment

SAN DIEGO (NWSA) — Advanced warfare concepts are being put to the test as 3rd Fleet conducts Fleet Battle Experiment Alfa (FBEA) and the Marine Corps Hunter Warrior Experiment aboard the command ship USS Coronado (AGF 11) off the coast of Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 3-13.

The program is evaluating advanced naval surface fire support using a prototype for the Arsenal Ship/Naval Surface Fire Support Weapon Control System and advanced munitions concepts including integrated Theater Ballistic Missile Defense (TBMD).

The first objective of FBEA is to

demonstrate a common communications link between the two participating parties to ensure a shared tactical picture of both afloat and ashore assets.

FBEA will also test TBMD concepts by demonstrating the system's capabilities.

Other objectives of FBEA include a demonstration of the Arsenal Ship and Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) operational concepts and the evaluation of Groupware systems provided by the University of Arizona. FBEA is a part of the Navy's continuing commitment to modernize operational concepts and to closely examine emerging technologies.

## BUPERS updates FY97 personnel funding

by LT Lydia Robertson,  
BUPERS PAO

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — Some personnel programs in the Navy's FY97 budget will be affected by this year's budget shortage, according to the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS), but several key programs that are important to Sailors will be maintained.

The primary impact will be in the permanent change of station (PCS) budget; not all Sailors who had planned to move this year will be able to do so. BUPERS detailers have already cut the number of unfunded moves, originally 12,000, to 10,000. The number is expected to come down even further in the coming months. BUPERS originally projected a requirement for 89,000 PCS moves this fiscal year while the budget provides only enough money for approximately 73,000 moves. Priorities include moving Sailors to and from sea duty and overseas, avoiding pools in training pipelines, and moves for critical health or safety reasons. All other requirements will be on a case-by-case basis.

The Chief of Naval Operations has directed more money to personnel accounts to sustain key programs important to Sailors, including maintaining enlisted

● see PERSONNEL, page 3

March 1997						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## Nominations sought for National Image Inc. Meritorious Service Award

by LT Pamela Kunze, BUPERS PAO

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) recently released NAVADMIN 034/97 to solicit nominations for the 1997 National Image, Inc. Meritorious Service Award.

National Image, Inc. is an Hispanic organization that has maintained close ties with DOD for 25 years. Each year, National Image, Inc. salutes Hispanic Americans in the military by presenting their Meritorious Service Award to two members from each service who have significantly contributed to increasing opportunities for Hispanic Americans. The presentation will be made during the group's national convention in May.

Commands may nominate one officer and one enlisted member who have displayed the distinguishing characteristics outlined in NAVADMIN 034/97. Nominations are due to BUPERS (Pers 61) no later than March 31, 1997.

Additional information on award criteria and submission is available in NAVADMIN 034/97, or by contacting the BUPERS point of contact, CDR E.D. Olmo, at (703)614-2007(DSN 224).

## Women's History Month

by LT Pamela Kunze, BUPERS PAO

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- March is Women's History Month and this year's theme for observances is "A Fine and Long Tradition of Community Service."

Women's History Month is an opportunity for all Navy personnel to commemorate the contributions of Navy women to our military community and acknowledge the expansion of women's role in the Navy.

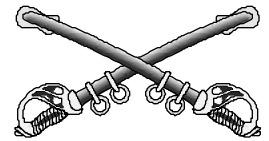
Navy activities will sponsor local programs and exhibits, publish items of interest, and educate personnel through command bulletins and peri-

odicals. Maximum participation in appropriate observances of Women's History Month is encouraged for all hands.

For additional information on the National Women's History Month Project, visit the web site at <www.nwhp.org>.

Information on women in the Navy is available at <www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/people/women/wintop.html>, or by contacting the office of the Special Assistant for Women's Policy at BUPERS, commercial (703) 695-9232/30 or DSN 225-9232/30. Also see NAVADMIN 55/97.

## Queen Elizabeth II knights ADM Smith



by Deedee Doke, Stars and Stripes

UNITED KINGDOM (NNS)— Retired Navy ADM Leighton W. (Snuffy) Smith Jr. received an honorary knighthood Mar. 5 from Britain's Queen Elizabeth II. The title Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of British Empire Military Division (KBE) is being bestowed on ADM Smith for his role in directing the multinational peace implementation force in Bosnia and Herzegovina as NATO commander, officials said.

"His skill and perceptive judgment earned the respect and admiration of the 12,000 United Kingdom troops under his command and greatly contributed to the overall success of the IFOR mission," a ministry statement said.

ADM Smith turned over the reins of IFOR, and command of NATO's Southern European forces to ADM T. Joseph Lopez July 31, and retired from active duty in October. ADM Smith was notified of the honor by Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, GCB, Chief of the British Defense staff. "He informed him personally with a letter he handed to him," said Dottie Smith, ADM Smith's wife.

The last American military member to receive similar honors was Army Gen. Colin L. Powell in 1993.

## Notable Quotable

**"I am reporting to you that our Navy and Marine Corps are on course and speed-- now, and for the future... We are focused and efficient, operating forward to protect America's interests around the world. Our forces are second to none -- and with your help I intend to keep it that way."**

**-- Secretary of the Navy John Dalton**

## Personnel

● continued from page 1

advancements at the same rate as in FY96 (with the exception of E-8 due to constraints of law); proceeding as planned with officer promotions and commissioning (from all programs); not adjusting approved separation dates for those voluntarily leaving active duty; keeping enlistment bonus and selective reenlistment bonus (SRB) programs on track (NAVADMIN 251/96); extending the enlisted early out program (NAVADMIN 007/97); and releasing some officer training program attrites. Other programs in BUPERS operations and maintenance accounts, including installation of Program Afloat for College Education (PACE) and Academic Skills Learning Centers (ASLC), are on track.

In order to sustain personnel programs the Navy will accelerate a few thousand end-strength cuts from FY98 into FY97. This additional downsizing in the final years of the post-Cold War drawdown will also bring the Navy's personnel numbers in line with force structure requirements driven by the 1993 Bottom-Up Review.

"This additional cut to end-strength will be relatively small in scale, as compared to previous years, and will come primarily from reducing our accessions," said VADM Daniel Oliver, Chief of Naval Personnel. "The cuts will not impact our career Sailors. We will continue to keep faith with our career people and their families. Strong support from the CNO, the fleet CINCs and other leaders make it possible to sustain our most important programs, even in these austere times."

BUPERS will continue to update Sailors on the latest personnel policy changes as the information becomes available.

## Aviation continuation pay application deadline extended

by LT Pamela Kunze, BUPERS Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) recently released NAVADMIN 029/97 to announce the extension of the Aviation Continuation Pay (ACP) application window to March 31 for select aviation sub-communities.

Pilots qualified in the F/A-18, F-14, EA-6, S-3 and E-6 airframes who meet the eligibility requirements listed in NAVADMIN 250/96 may apply for ACP. C-130 pilots who are TARs may also apply.

Additional information on ACP application eligibility and guidelines is available in NAVADMIN 250/96, or by contacting the BUPERS point of contact, CDR Rick Ryan, Pers-211, at (703)693-2306 (DSN 223).

## Flood delays March issue of *ALL HANDS* magazine

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — Flooding in the Louisville, Ky. area has seriously affected Gateway Inc., the printing contractor for *ALL HANDS* magazine. The distribution of the March issue has been delayed.

## Status of the Navy



**Personnel:** 404,471 active duty; 236,704 ready reserves; 213,048 civilians

**Aircraft:** 4,754

**Ships:** 351

**At Sea:** 158 ships (45%)

**Deployed:** 99 ships (28%)

**Personnel Deployed:** 47,343

**Exercises:** 5

**Port Visits:** 11

**SSNs at Sea:** 27 (36%)

**Carriers/Air Wings at Sea:**

USS *Kitty Hawk*/CVW-11: transit, Indian Ocean

USS *Theodore Roosevelt*/CVW-3: INVITEX 97, Mediterranean Sea

USS *Independence*: transit, Western Pacific

USS *Nimitz*: local ops, Eastern Pacific

USS *George Washington*: local ops, Western Pacific

**LHAs/LHDs/LPHs at Sea:**

USS *Essex*/11th MEU: port visit, Sydney, Australia

USS *Nassau*/26th MEU: INVITEX 97, Adriatic Sea

USS *Saipan*: local ops, Western Pacific

USS *New Orleans*: transit, Western Pacific

**Ships Assigned to Middle East Force:**

USS *Ardent*, USS *Dextrous*, USS *Nicholson*, USS *Halyburton*, USS *Hamilton*, USS *Leftwich*, USS *Fletcher*

**Other Exercises/Operations:**

Operation *Southern Watch*, Arabian Gulf

Maritime Interception Ops, Arabian Gulf

Counter Drug Ops, Caribbean/East Pacific

MEF 97-1, Mid Pacific

Joint Maritime Course 97-1, North Atlantic

# Naval Support Force Antarctica returns to homeport permanently

by JO2 Trevor Poulsen, NSFA Public Affairs Office

ANTARCTICA (NNS)—When Naval Support Force, Antarctica (NSFA) returns to homeport this year, its long commitment to exploration of the world's most southern continent will come to an end. The 100-plus member command from Port Hueneme, Calif., has been making yearly deployments to Antarctica since Operation Deep Freeze I during the 1955-1956 austral summer season. That year, 1,800 men aboard seven ships came to Ross Island with a mission to establish an airfield and base of operations.

The Sailors of NSFA succeeded in building McMurdo Station, thereby opening up the continent for long-term scientific research. Today McMurdo is the largest settlement in Antarctica, with all of the infrastructure, buildings and comforts of a small town.

NSFA has become considerably smaller in recent years as private contractors have taken on a larger role in the United States Antarctic Program. Since the departure of the Seabees and the Public Works Department in 1993, NSFA's contributions include, but not limited to meteorology, air traffic control and communications.

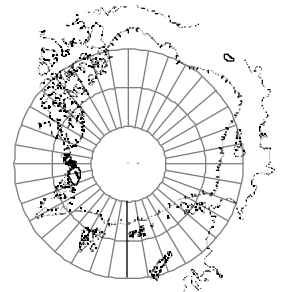
Meteorology Division Leading Chief Petty Officer AGC Matt Young is currently on his fifth deployment and

has seen the transition evolve over time. "I wish we were still here but our days are numbered," he said. "This is a civilian operation now."

Electronics Division Maintenance Chief ETC(SW) Charles Gagnon said NSFA was once a popular assignment. "Sailors will now miss an opportunity to come down and support the program," he said. "A lot of people in the Navy asked to get assigned here."

Air Traffic Controller AC2 Dustin Barrett has been with NSFA since 1993. He said many people will miss the command's presence in Antarctica. "I hate to see us leave," he said. "We've had a long tradition here."

After redeployment in February only 23 NSFA personnel will remain in McMurdo as the last winter-over detachment. NSFA will formally disestablish in March 1998, but the transition to civilian contractors is well underway. A civilian contractor replaced NSFA's disbursing and Morale, Welfare and Recreation divisions in February. Contractors are set to take over the remaining command functions in October. An administrative staff will remain with the command until disestablishment.



## Navy Medical Corps is 221 years old!

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — Navy Surgeon General VADM Harold M. Koenig sends the following Medical Corps birthday message to the fleet:

"As we celebrate the 221st anniversary of the Medical Corps, I extend my personal thanks and congratulations to Medical Corps officers worldwide for completing another year of distinguished service in support of the Navy and Marine Corps mission.

"During the past year, the Medical Corps supported operational missions worldwide. During Operation Pacific Haven, Navy Medical Department personnel helped care for more than 2,000 Kurds who were evacuated to Guam. Navy health care providers treated more than a hundred Chinese citizens whose ship was diverted to our naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, during Operation Marathon.

"Medical Corps officers can be found on board Navy ships, supporting our Fleet Marine Force, serving with aviation squadrons, ashore at medical and research facilities and even aboard a space shuttle. Whether in a clinical setting, administrative role or in an operational front, the

Medical Corps distinguishes themselves as leaders among leaders.

"The Medical Corps also leads the way in military medical research on a myriad of topics in both scientific discovery and in product development. Through your dedication and hard work, new medical technologies are being developed to prevent suffering and save lives of military personnel for years to come.

"I am proud of the many accomplishments and contributions each of you continue to make on a daily basis. It's members of the Medical Corps who are the key to reengineering how Navy medicine does business. You have made it possible to take health care to the deckplates and keep our Sailors and Marines on the job.

"As we look to the future, I know each of you will continue to meet each new challenge with the same lofty degree of determination and harmony that you have exhibited in the past. You should be proud of your accomplishments, and I salute you.

"Happy birthday, Medical Corps, and thanks for a job well done."



## BUPERS: Keep beneficiary information current

by Michael McLellan, BUPERS Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — Two of the most important documents in every Sailor's service record are the NAVPERS 1070/602 Dependency Application/Record of Emergency Data (Page 2), and the form SGLV 8286, which is used to designate who will receive your Servicemember's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) in the event of your death.

Navy officials use the information on your Page 2 to notify next of kin and other designated family members if you die or become gravely ill or injured.

The family members you designate to receive your death gratuity and any unpaid allowances are also listed on your Page 2. Your Page 2 is the form you use to apply for dependency allowance and document family member data. The important information on your Page 2 should be updated whenever there are changes in family members status.

The SGLV 8286 form is used to designate who will receive

your SGLI benefits. Each recipient's name, address, percentage of shares and option of payment must be designated. Use of the phrase "by Law" to designate SGLI beneficiaries is not authorized.

Your SGLI is one of the most valuable benefits available to Sailors. Coverage of up to \$200,000 costs \$.90 per \$10K of insurance.

You can determine the amount of your coverage by checking your Leave and Earnings Statement in the "deductions" section. If there is no deduction listed, then you are not covered. That can be easily rectified by visiting your personnel office to adjust or obtain coverage by filling in form SGLV 8285.

Additional information about these benefits is available from your PASS Liaison representative, your personnel office, NAVADMIN 040/97 or by calling Mr. Peter Darby (PERS-662) at (703)693-0804 (DSN 223).

## NAVY-MARINE CORPS NEWS

Navy-Marine Corps News is a videotaped newscast generated for broadcast to Navy-Marine Corps fleet and shore units. The next Navy-Marine Corps News (program #709) includes the following stories:

- CNO tells Senate that Aviation Officer Retention is high priority
- Projected Rotation Dates for the summer may extend into fiscal year
- FOCUS ON THE FLEET: KAKE TV-10 in Wichita, Kansas, visits forward deployed Sailor and Marines of USS Roosevelt Battlegroup in the Mediterranean
- USO-Grams help Sailors and Marines stay in touch with family and friends
- New skills and technology put to test during Joint Fleet exercise
- Deck department chief motivates Sailors, leads his team aboard USS Roosevelt
- Navy medical specialists volunteer time, skills and money to help Guatemalan people
- Navy Medical Corps celebrates 221 years of distinguished service
- NEWS YOU CAN USE: Tips on preparing for advancement exams
- Marines, Sailors and civilians keep Maritime Prepositioning ships, equipment ready to go at Blount Island, Fla.
- MOVIE CALL: Clint Eastwood and Gene Hackman star in "Absolute Power"

We need your input on Navy-Marine Corps News, so call our FEEDBACK LINE at (202) 433-6108 or DSN 288-6108 and leave a message or send us E-Mail at: nmcn@smtp.mediacen.navy.mil

If you have distribution questions contact Mr. John Morrissey at (202) 433-5844 or DSN 288-5844, or write him at the address mentioned below. All Navy-Marine Corps News tapes must be returned each week. Please use the enclosed return label.

If you have items that you think would be of interest to the Navy or Marine Corps worldwide, please submit your original video contributions on BetaCam, Hi-8, Super VHS, or 3/4 inch videotape to the nearest Navy Broadcasting Fleet Support Detachment or send by fastest means possible to our field producer at:

Navy/Marine Corps News  
Naval Media Center, Bldg. 168  
2701 South Capitol St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20373-5819  
(202) 433-6275, DSN 288-6275